

NEW BALTIMORE NEWS

APRIL-JUNE 2010

Special Interest

- **Local Boy Scouts Recognized**
- **Food Pantry**
- **2010 Townwide Yard Sale Update**
- **Did You Know**
- **Return the F.A.V.O.R.**

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Ag Fest

The 2010 New Baltimore Antique Machinery and Agricultural Festival was once again a great success. Many thanks to the VanEtten family, all the corporate sponsors, the Town, and the Cornell Hook and Ladder Fire Company and Ladies Auxiliary who provided delicious food and support. Without this partnership, the festival would not have celebrated 19 plus years!

The attractions drew approximately 2,000 visitors to the VanEtten Farm on Sawmill Road. Events included the garden tractor and antique tractor pulls, the antique steam tractor, and airplanes taking off and landing. Entertainment under the big tent included Ralph Barger and Peaceful Country, Squeeze Play, Steve's One Man Band, and Kevin Hotaling with karaoke. Free children's activities included Peggy Were with temporary air-brushed tattoos, pie and pudding contests, sand boxes of corn, oats, and colored sand, the bouncy bounce, a dunking booth, sack races, the cake walks, craft-making with beads and Indian corn, sand art and face painting. These fun events were all made possible with help from Ken Burns and family and a grant from Greene County.

Visiting speakers included Dean Davis and his reptile friends and Richele Ford of Blodgett Hill, a wildlife rehabilitator, specializing in birds of prey including hawks and owls.

The most successful event was the Silent Auction lead by Virginia Palmer and was supported by 70 local businesses and community leaders.

A special thank you goes to the Ag Fest Committee for their hard work in planning this annual event and the VanEtten Family who graciously volunteer their farm each year.



HISTORICAL NOTES

History Jottings— The McAuliffes

I recently was researching the World War I period as it happened in New Baltimore. Of the several war memorials in front of the Gill Road firehouse, the most elaborate is a distinguished looking bronze plaque commemorating the 1914-1918 conflict. One particularly interesting thing aroused my curiosity when reading the names on it. There are three McAuliffes listed, Robert, Howard, and Gerald.

I took a look in the Historian's files at Town Hall and found a newspaper clipping about Mrs. Joseph Fletcher of Troy who had sent four sons to serve in the military, three at the time in the Navy. The article goes on to quote at length a letter from Robert describing an attack on his ship by a German submarine. Robert, Gerald, and Howard served in a variety of locations in Europe, facing actual combat on occasion,

After looking at the 1915 New York State census, we can only assume that the boys' mother remarried and moved to Troy from New Baltimore. That census lists Minnie McAuliffe as a 45-year-old housewife with her seven children making a home at the south end of Main Street. Robert was a river pilot while Chester and Howard were a steamboat watchman and quartermaster, respectively. Gerald was just 16. The other three children were 14 or younger, Marcia, Herbert, and Charles.

The November 20, 1917 edition of *The Recorder*, a Catskill weekly

newspaper, published a letter from Howard and Gerald McAuliffe: "I write to thank you for the Christmas packages which you sent my brother and myself. We not only appreciate them because they are useful, but the very fact that you sent them proves to us that we have not been forgotten, and that it is not only the enlisted men who are fighting this war, but it is also the great organizations at home, and I know of no other organization greater than the Red Cross Society. It makes us proud to know that the people of our old home town are interested in this work."

The 1920 Federal census had Joseph and Minnie Fletcher living in Troy in the same household with all the children named above. The 1900 and 1910 Enumerations list Dennis and Minnie McAuliffe in New Baltimore with their growing brood. Dennis was a shoemaker with his own shop.

There is a Dennis McAuliffe buried in Chestnut Lawn Cemetery with a death date of 1914. Nearby are the graves of Minnie C. Smith (1869-1947) and Chester (1892-1939), Gerald (1899-1945), and Herbert (1903-1982) McAuliffe. If this is her, Minnie may have married another time or possibly reverted to her maiden name. According to his tombstone, Gerald died in December after the war.

Thanks to the brave McAuliffe boys and all the other men and women who valiantly represented New Baltimore in our all-too-many wars. Clesson Bush, Town Historian

The Greene County Board of Elections is holding training classes on their new voting machines. If anyone missed their August session, please call 719-3550 and they will schedule a convenient time.



Left to Right—Howard and Gerald McAuliffe



Chester McAuliffe Robert McAuliffe

Farmers' Market

Residents of the Town of New Baltimore are celebrating the return of their popular and unique Farmers' Market which moved this year to Cecil C. Hallock Memorial Park, District 2, on County Route 54. The Market is open from 9 AM to 12 PM every Saturday through September. Now in its third year of operation, the Market offers local produce, vegetables and fruit, eggs, meat and poultry, jams, honey, beeswax products, flowers, handmade soaps and freshly baked bread and goodies. Free coffee and cold water is always available and there is plenty of parking.

There will be live music most Saturdays and the performers have generously donated their time and talent to add to the wonderful atmosphere of the Market. Musical acts include Steve Schwebler (The One Man Band), Nineteen Digits, Sierra, Rena Graf & Brian Melick, and Lawson.

The Market is a joint venture among Town farmers and residents to support family-based farming and showcase local agriculture. The Market provides the community the highest quality fresh, locally grown and crafted products, and a warm and dry welcoming meeting place on Saturday

mornings throughout the summer. Under the auspices of the Town of New Baltimore Agricultural Committee and with ongoing support of the Town Board, the Market is managed this year by Town resident Hilary Schrauf. Members of the Town's 2010 Farmers' Market Committee are Jack Dirrigl, Liz LoGiudice, Susan McCuen, Fran Melick, Patricia Monks, Chris Norris, and Lynn Taylor.

New vendors are always welcome and encouraged to come try out the Market. Vendors pay a \$5 membership fee and a \$5 stall fee for each day then vend at the Market. All vendors must fill out an application that can be obtained by contacting Liz LoGiudice at 731-2536 or by email at ravensroostfarm@yahoo.com.



Business Breakfast



The fifth annual New Baltimore Business Breakfast was a huge success with 47 business owners, town and county officials, and other guests. The breakfast was sponsored by The Bank of Greene County and was held at the Water's Edge on Route 144. Barry Henck from Central Hudson gave a presentation on energy efficiency and rebate programs for business owners. Other speakers included Greene County Clerk Mike Flynn on the new veterans ID cards and Sheriff Greg Seeley on pistol permit cards and the upcoming graduation of their new police dog, Blaze. Rene VanSchack from the IDA and Laurel Mann from the Coxsackie Area Chamber of Commerce reported on their activities and extended an invitation to partner with New Baltimore in future economic development projects.

Other speakers included Frank and Trudy Litto of the Great American Wheel Works, Don Gibson from The Bank of Greene County, Bill and Melissa Johns from the Coxsackie Antiques Center, Joseph Loux, from Dovehouse Editions Canada, and Marjorie Loux from the Recorder Shop.

Town Board Report

APRIL

- Approved intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Coxsackie to share or exchange Code Enforcement Officer services when needed.
 - Approved intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Coeymans to share and exchange highway services such as plowing, salting, sanding, or paving.
 - Approved \$400 for the operation of the New Baltimore Farmers' Market for the 2010 season.
 - Reappointed Jeffrey Flack as New Baltimore's representative to the Greene County Planning Board .
 - Renewed the designation of engineers to perform engineering review services to the town (CT Male Associates, Delaware Engineering, J. Kenneth Fraser & Associates) and added Creighton Manning Engineering
 - Appointed Ron Hofaker to the Board of Assessment Review.
- Presentations were made by Dr. Gregory, Superintendent of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District; Sandy Mathes from the Greene County IDA, and Terry McGee Ward from the Greene County Youth Bureau.
 - Approved resolution formally establishing Town of New Baltimore Antique Machinery and Agricultural Festival Committee chaired by Rob VanEtten necessary to procure insurance for AgFest.
 - Approved resolution congratulating John Hilscher on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

MAY

- Approved contract for computer and website services with Intelligent Technology Solutions, Inc. in Coxsackie.
- Adopted new Ethics Policy for the Town.
- Established a new Senior Citizens Committee with Ellie Alfeld, Fran and Bud Melick, John and Betty Weidel, Santo and Betty Jane Costanza, Bonnie DiSanto-Hotaling, and Supervisor O'Rorke. New members are welcome and encouraged to participate.

JUNE

- Observed Moment of Silence for former Town Board Member Gary McLarnon who served from June 30, 1988 to December 31, 1993.
- Appointed Antonia Campbell as Summer Parks Program Director.
- Approved Highway 284 Agreement regarding road improvements for Alcove Road, Swezey Road, Paradise Hill Road, Valley View Drive, and Independence Lane.
- Appointed Leah Leonard Assistant Summer Parks Program Director.

Planning Board

APRIL

- Public hearing on 2 lot subdivision of Robert and Diane Scott on Route 81. Approved at regular meeting that followed.
- Status report from Building Inspector John Cashin regarding J.B. Car Services Special Use Permit.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer

APRIL

- Discussed landscaping plan for Dr. Gertzberg's dental office on Route 9W.

MAY

- Public hearing on the 3 lot subdivision for Paul and Patricia Schiller on Route 9W; and 2 lot subdivision for Matthew and Donna Taormina on East Honey Hollow Road. Subdivision approved at regular meeting.
- Agreement reached with Holiday Inn Express and Gloede Sign Company regarding height of Holiday Inn Express Sign on Thruway side of motel.

JUNE

- Public Hearing on subdivision for Robert and Diane Scott for 2 lot subdivision on Route 81; James and Karen Nolan for 3 lot subdivision on Acquetuck Road. Both subdivisions approved at regular meeting.
- Status report from Building Inspector Cashin on J.B. Car Services Special Use Permit. Board moved to extend permit through end of the year.

- Building Inspections 17
- Building Permits Issued 2
- Certificates of Compliance Issued 3
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued 4
- Compliance Orders Issued 4
- Junk Vehicle Complaints 1
- New Building Permit Applications Received 4
- Code Violation Investigations 3
- Zoning Violation Investigations 1

Application Fees for April.....\$ 156.00

MAY

- Building Inspections 19
- Building Permits Issued 4
- Building Permits Renewed 3
- Certificates of Compliance Issued 1
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued 3
- Court Appearances 1
- Junk Vehicle Complaints 1
- New Building Permit Applications Received 3
- Pool Permit Applications Received 2
- Pool Permits Issued 2
- Sign Permit Applications 1
- Sign Permit Issued 1
- Code Violation Investigations 2
- Zoning Violation Investigations 2

Application Fees for May.....\$1,097.33

Total Fees Year to Date.....\$3,484.29

Zoning Board of Appeals

- Public Hearing was held on the application from the New Baltimore Reformed Church for a ready-built storage shed adjacent to the parsonage and the variance was subsequently approved.
- Reported that no matters have come before the ZBA which have been impacted by any of the zoning changes.

Assessor's Report

Total assessed value this year is \$241,586,220 for 2,070 parcels at 68.5% of full market value.

Grievance Day was held on May 25 and the BAR reviewed 22 claims.

Income eligibility for seniors 65 and older and Basic STAR is increased to \$79,050.

Senior Moments

Senior Citizen Committee

In May, the Town Board established a Senior Citizen Committee to plan and coordinate activities for seniors. The committee will consist of Ellie Alfred, Fran and Bud Melick, John and Betty Weidel, Santo and Betty Jane Costanza, Bonnie DiSanto-Hotaling, and Supervisor O'Rorke.

New members are welcome and if anyone has suggestions or concerns for discussion, please call Ellie Alfred at 756-2452 or Supervisor O'Rorke at 756-6671.

FOOD PANTRY

The Cocksackie Food Pantry at the First Reformed Church has invited any seniors in New Baltimore to use their services. Their hours are from 1-2 PM on Tuesdays and 7-8 PM on Thursdays for working families. Charlotte Carter from the Food Pantry has also suggested that the bus service provided by the Greene County Department for the Aging may be able to arrange transportation. Many items from food donations to the US Postal Service are distributed through the First Reformed Church with some coming from right here in New Baltimore.

If any seniors in New Baltimore would like more information about this service, please call Ellie Alfred at 756-2452 or Town Supervisor O'Rorke at 756-6671.

TOWNWIDE GARAGE SALE

The date of the 7th Annual Townwide Yard Sale has been set for Saturday, September 18 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Rain date will be Sunday, September 19. This year's event will be coordinated by Councilwoman Barb Finke and Debra DiSalvio. Please email Barb at bfinke@townofnewbaltimore.org by **September 15** if you are planning to have a yard sale and would like to be included on the map. Please include your street address or Town Park in which you wish to set up and what you have to sell (Furniture-F; Kids' Clothes/Toys-KCT; Housewares-H; Tools-T; Books-B; Antiques-A; Sporting Goods-SG; Other-O).

Maps can be picked up at Town Hall on the morning of the sale or at the Farmers' Market., Cecil C. Hallock Memorial Park, District 2, on County Route 54.

If any town residents would like to coordinate this event next year, please let Councilwoman Finke know at 756-3658.



PET CORNER

Many residents will notice that spring and summer are the prime seasons for homeless cats and kittens. The Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society reminds responsible pet owner to spay or neuter their pets for longer and healthier lives. They are open seven days a week, are located at 3 Oakland Avenue in Menands, and can be reached at 434-8128 or www.mohawkhumane.org.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

If you have an article that you would like to include in the next newsletter or have a name or address change, please email Councilmembers Barb Finke or Michael Meredith at:

bfinke@townofnewbaltimore.org

mmeredith@townofnewbaltimore.org



RETURN THE F.A.V.O.R.

Greene County Clerk Mike Flynn and Veterans' Service Agency Director Jack VanLoan have announced the Return the F.A.V.O.R. Veteran Discount Program. In recognition of the service and sacrifices made by our returning veterans, participating Greene County retailers will offer a discount to honorably discharged veterans. Any veteran living in Greene County can receive a card once they have recorded their record of discharge with the County Clerk's office.

To obtain a card, visit the County Clerk's office any weekday between 9 AM and 1 PM. If a copy of Discharge (Form DD-214) has been filed, just present a photo ID (Driver's License). If the discharge has not been recorded or if the veteran is not sure whether it has, bring an original or Certified Copy of the DD-214 to the Clerk's Office and it will be photocopied and recorded. The original will be returned. There is a \$5 fee which only covers the cost of the equipment and staff to produce the cards.

Current discounts range from 10-50 percent and include home and garden, automotive, dining, personal services, health and wellness, and recreation services. New business applications continue to arrive and the list of participating merchants is growing. A current listing can be found at www.greenegov.com.

The County Clerk has also invited any businesses in the Town of New Baltimore to take part in this program and offer a discount to our veterans. Applications are available at Town Hall or through the Clerk's Office at 719-3255.



Did You Know



At our successful Business Breakfast, Barry Henck from Central Hudson announced three rebates for energy efficient cooling equipment.

- Residents can earn a rebate of \$50 for an old, inefficient refrigerator or freezer that is operational and between 10 and 30 feet in size. Central Hudson will have the unit picked up for free and no purchase is necessary. For details or to make an appointment for pickup, go to www.SavingsCentral.com or call (866)706-3995 until December 31.
- A mail-in rebate of \$50 toward the purchase of a new Energy Star window air conditioner (or \$100 toward a through-the-wall unit) can be received by turning in the old units at Sears in the Hudson Valley Mall in Kingston and get a Proof of Recycling certificate. A new Energy Star unit can be purchased at any store or over the Internet. For more info and a rebate form, go to www.SavingsCentral.com or call (866)706-3995 until September 15.
- \$600 rebates are available for residents who install a new, energy efficient central air conditioning system in their home. A participating Trade Ally, listed on www.SavingsCentral.com, must install the system. Ductless split systems and air-source heat pumps qualify for the rebate if they meet the energy efficient requirements. More information can be found at www.SavingsCentral.com or by calling (800)515-5353 until December 31.

Supervisor

Susan O'Rorke

Board Members

Art Byas

Barbara Finke

Michael T. Meredith

Christopher Norris

Town Clerk

Janet Brooks

Planning Board

Lee Davis, Chair

Joseph Caputo

Dan Kelly

Kenneth Kuder

Eric Hoglund

John Murray

Alta Turner

TOWN OFFICIALS**Tax Collector**

Lynn Taylor

Town Justice

Joseph Cosenza

Joseph Farrell

**Superintendent of
Highways**

Denis Jordan

Assessor

Gordon Bennett

Zoning Board of Appeals

Meave Tooher, Chair

Donna Carlson

Marie Corrado

Jack Covey

Shelly VanEtten

Calendar**Town Board Meetings**

2nd and 4th Mondays

Planning Board Meetings

2nd Thursday*

Zoning Board Meetings

1st Wednesday*

*If no agenda, no meeting

For agendas and other Town
information, please call Town
Offices or visit our website.

www.townofnewbaltimore.org

756-6671

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Helpful Hands

Two Boy Scouts in the Town of New Baltimore recently completed their Eagle Scout projects which included planning, developing, and leading a community service project. Congratulations to Jack Hilscher and Kendall Rebusmen for their dedication, commitment, and leadership in completing two projects that will benefit many families and residents in our community.

Jack Hilscher, son of Nancy and Ted Hilscher, completed his Eagle Scout project which consisted of expanding, and improving the Stanton Hill Cemetery. The Stanton Hill Cemetery Association acquired a new plot of land that needed to be seeded. Jack collected hay from a local barn and used it as mulch to prevent soil erosion and cover for the new seed. After the grass seed and hay was spread, Jack worked on the eastern border, which was overgrown with brush and needed to be cleared so there could be more gravesites for the cemetery. The final piece of his project was the placement of a stone monument welcoming visitors into the cemetery and the planting of flowering shrubs. The monument, pictured at right, has the name of the cemetery and a plaque noting its inclusion on the Greene County Historical Register.



Kendall Rebusmen, son of Paula and Ken Rebusmen, recently completed his Eagle Scout project at the Cecil Hallock Park, District 2. As a Varsity Pitcher at Cocksackie-Athens High School, Kendall used his fondness for baseball when deciding his Eagle Scout Project. He completed approximately 215 hours of labor as well as numerous additional hours for research and design.

Additions to the ball field included first and third baseline fences, cut in baselines and the infield, regrade and fill in around bases, replace all bases with removable bases, adding a rubber belt to the lower back stop, and constructing benches on the first and third base lines for players.

Pictured at left are the photographs of Kendall installing one of the new benches and his completed project.

OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation adopted restrictions on the open burning of residential waste which became effective **October 14, 2009**. The open burning of residential waste is prohibited in all communities statewide, regardless of population, with exceptions for burning tree limbs and branches at limited times and other certain circumstances listed below.

In towns with a total population less than 20,000, tree limbs may be burned with attached leaves. The limbs must be less than 6 inches in diameter and 8 feet in length, but is **not allowed from March 16 through May 14 due to the increased risk of wildfires**. Burning of leaves is **banned** and burning of trash is **prohibited** in New York State.

Effective October 14, 2009, all open burning is prohibited in New York with several exceptions:

- On-site burning of limbs and branches between May 15 and the following March 15 in any town with a total population less than 20,000.
- Barbecue grills, maple sugar arches, and similar outdoor cooking devices.
- Small cooking and campfires.
- On-site burning of organic agricultural wastes but not pesticides, plastics, or other non-organic material.
- Liquid petroleum fueled smudge pots to prevent frost damage to crops.
- Ceremonial or celebratory bonfires.
- Disposal of a flag or religious item.
- Burning on an emergency basis of explosive or other dangerous or contraband by police, etc.
- Prescribed burns performed according to state regulations.
- Fire training with some restrictions on the use of acquired structures.
- Individual open fires to control plant and animal disease outbreaks as approved by DEC upon the request of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets.
- Open fires as necessary to control invasive plant and insect species.

Additional information can be found at www.dec.ny.gov.

The Highway Department is no longer accepting brush at the Town Garage.

If homeowners are planning to burn their brush, please contact
Greene County Department of Emergency Services at
622-3548